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## **Sen. George to encourage giving blood by showing how easy it is**

**Who:** Sen. Tom George, R-Texas Township.

**What:** George will give blood at a local blood drive.

**When:** 1 p.m., Monday, Sept. 19. The blood drive runs from noon to 5:45 p.m.

**Where:** Borgess Health Alliance's Lawrence Education Center, 1701 Gull Road, Kalamazoo.

**Briefing:** Sen. George is kicking off a week-long effort in the Kalamazoo area to increase blood donations. The senator is encouraging people to give blood to ensure the nation has adequate supply on hand, especially after the recent devastating hurricane and the fourth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. George has sent out mailings to Kalamazoo County residents to encourage them to give blood. Red Cross officials say the blood supply always is in short supply, but particularly in recent months nationally and in southwestern Michigan.

To give blood, people must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. No appointments are necessary.

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